

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the manner in which the recited invention distinguishes patentably from the Franck et al. reference relied upon in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim 1 now recites that the disk-shaped object is of synthetic thermoplastic adhesive material that has adhesive contact surfaces on opposite sides of the object that are rough (with particular averaged roughness depth).

In Franck et al. the adhesive sheet strip (5) is not rough. It is the regions (3A) and (3B) of the device (1) that are made rough. These regions of the device (1) cooperate with a non-sticky grip tab (6) of the adhesive sheet strip (5) to facilitate detachment of the adhesive sheet strip (5) from the device (1) when the grip tab is pulled.

There is no teaching or suggestion in Franck et al. of providing adhesive material with rough contact surfaces. The secondary references do not cure the deficiencies of Franck et al.

As pointed out in the paragraph beginning "According to the invention . . ." at the middle of page 2 of Applicant's specification:

Surprisingly, it has been found that with a rough condition of the contact surfaces, adjacent disk-shaped objects no longer have the tendency to stick together, but are easily separated and isolated from each other.

This goal of the present invention has no counterpart in Franck et al., the goal of which is to provide an adhesive sheet strip that is easily detached from a device.

Accordingly, Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon (including new Claim 7) should be allowed.

This application is now believed to be clearly in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (A-10035) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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